

Communication from Public

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Angeles Chapter
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October 13th, 2021

To the Honorable Councilmembers Raman, Koretz and Ridley-Thomas,

The Sierra Club applauds your proposed resolution for maritime shipping industry decarbonization.

Over the past several years, in deep partnership with environmental justice communities in the San Gabriel Valley, the Sierra Club successfully advocated for an Indirect Source Rule on warehouses from the South Coast AQMD. The impacts of the logistics industry expansion in our region on local air pollution had reached a breaking point, and we are proud of our victory to force the cleanup of the diesel trucking and equipment. We also acknowledge that diesel trucks are just one piece of the larger impact of logistics and shipping on our area, and the planet.

We wholeheartedly agree with your findings that the shipping industry is a major contributor to the global climate problem. We support an increase of urgency and creativity on all fronts in the urgent task of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from all sources. We are keenly aware of the outsized role that the port of Los Angeles plays, along with its neighbors in Long Beach, as a critical logistics hub for the United States and the Pacific. As such, we see this resolution as an important first step to change. The goods movement sector from the Port of LA has experienced massive amounts of activity, and it will only increase as consumers rely on imports from online shopping. Passing a major zero emission requirement for ships will also clean up air pollution for frontline communities, who have been hurt first and worst near port communities.

Los Angeles is not afraid of stepping into climate leadership, in no small part thanks to your individual leadership. We salute your efforts, and will be following this motion closely.

Morgan Goodwin

Senior Director of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club